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U. S. DEPARTMENT
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CONSUMER
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**CLOSING THE
NUTRITION GAP**

the child nutrition act of 1966

- SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM
- SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM
- NONFOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

the child nutrition act of 1966

The Child Nutrition Act of 1966 can help close gaps in school food service programs that became apparent during 20 years of Federal-State experience with the National School Lunch Act of 1946.

Under CNA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has authority to assist the States in broadening school food services:

The Act continues the Special Milk Program, a useful supplement to child nutrition, for another three years beyond June 30, 1967.

Many needy children, and children who travel long distances to

school, often arrive at school hungry. The Act authorizes a pilot breakfast program to help close this gap.

Many schools in needy areas cannot take part in the National School Lunch Program because they have no money to buy basic equipment for food service. Under the Nonfood Assistance Program such schools get help to buy equipment.

How the Programs Operate

The Special Milk, School Breakfast and Nonfood Assistance Programs, like the National School Lunch Pro-

gram, require community effort. School officials and interested local citizens run the programs in their schools (and child-care institutions in the case of the Special Milk Program). The U. S. Department of Agriculture's Consumer and Marketing Service administers the programs through State departments of education, and in some instances through other State departments.

C&MS specialists give administrative and technical help to State personnel who advise local school food managers. State departments of education make agreements with schools concerning program details.



More than half of the States and Territories do not permit the State educational agency to administer the program in nonprofit private schools and child-care institutions, and in those States and Territories such schools may apply directly to the USDA.

THE SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM

The primary aim of the Special Milk Program is to create good milk drinking habits among children and to improve their nutritional well-being. The program, which has been

operated by USDA since 1954, has been an effective means of encouraging more children to drink enough milk.

Federal Assistance

USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service encourages children to drink more milk by paying schools and child-care institutions for part of the cost of each half-pint they serve. These payments make it possible for the school or institution to start a milk service or to expand their current service by offering milk at reduced prices.

Schools and child-care institutions which charge separately for milk must do all they can to use the payments to reduce the price of milk to children. The greatest possible reimbursement is 4 cents per half pint for schools which also take part in the National School Lunch Program (with no reimbursement paid on the first half pint of milk served with the Type A lunch or the first half pint served under the School Breakfast Program) and 3 cents per half pint in those remaining schools and child-care institutions where milk is sold as a separately priced item. Up to 1 cent of this reimbursement may be kept to

pay all or part of the handling cost. Within these maximum rates, the reimbursement will depend upon the cost of the milk, the proposed price to the child, and the allowance to pay the cost of distributing milk within the school or institution.

Needy schools in economically depressed areas may be eligible to receive additional assistance under the Special Milk Program if they: (a) have no noon food service, or (b) get special assistance due to economic need under the National School Lunch Program. Children attending these schools who can afford to pay the nominal price for milk are ex-

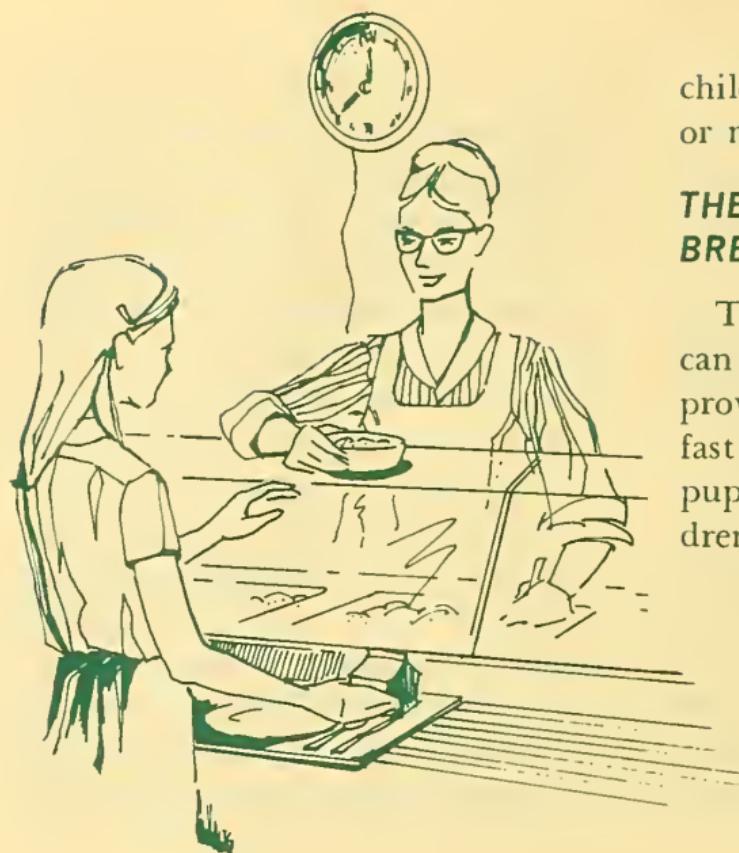
pected to do so. However, those who are unable to pay even this reduced price may receive milk free. In these instances, schools are reimbursed at a rate equal to the cost of the milk.

In most child-care institutions and in some schools, children do not buy milk separately but get it along with food and other services for a tuition, boarding, camping or other fee. Because they cannot encourage children to drink more milk by reducing the selling price, these institutions must submit a plan showing just how they hope to encourage children to drink more milk. Approval to participate in the program is based, in part, on the

adequacy of this plan. To cover part of the cost of any increase in consumption, reimbursement is 2 cents for each half pint of milk served.

Who Is Eligible

All public and nonprofit private schools of high school grade and under are eligible to take part. Also nonprofit child-care institutions such as nursery schools, child-care centers, settlement houses, and summer camps, are eligible for help under the Special Milk Program. All schools and child-care institutions taking part must agree to operate the program for all



children without regard to race, color, or national origin.

THE PILOT SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The pilot School Breakfast Program can help to close the nutrition gap by providing children a nutritious breakfast in schools that have many needy pupils or to which many of the children travel long distances.

Federal Assistance to the Program:

Cash

Federal funds for school breakfasts are divided among the States to pay schools for the cost of locally purchased food (in addition to the USDA donated foods used in preparing breakfasts). The amount of money each State gets is determined by the following factors: a specified amount divided equally among the States; the rest on the basis of school lunch participation in the State and the per capita income for the State.

Food

Foods bought under the U. S. Department of Agriculture's surplus removal and price support programs are generally available to all eligible non-profit school breakfast programs. The quantity and variety that schools get depend on the kinds and amounts in Government stocks and on the school's ability to use them effectively.

Who Is Eligible

Since the School Breakfast Program is a pilot effort, participation presently is limited. Schools chosen to

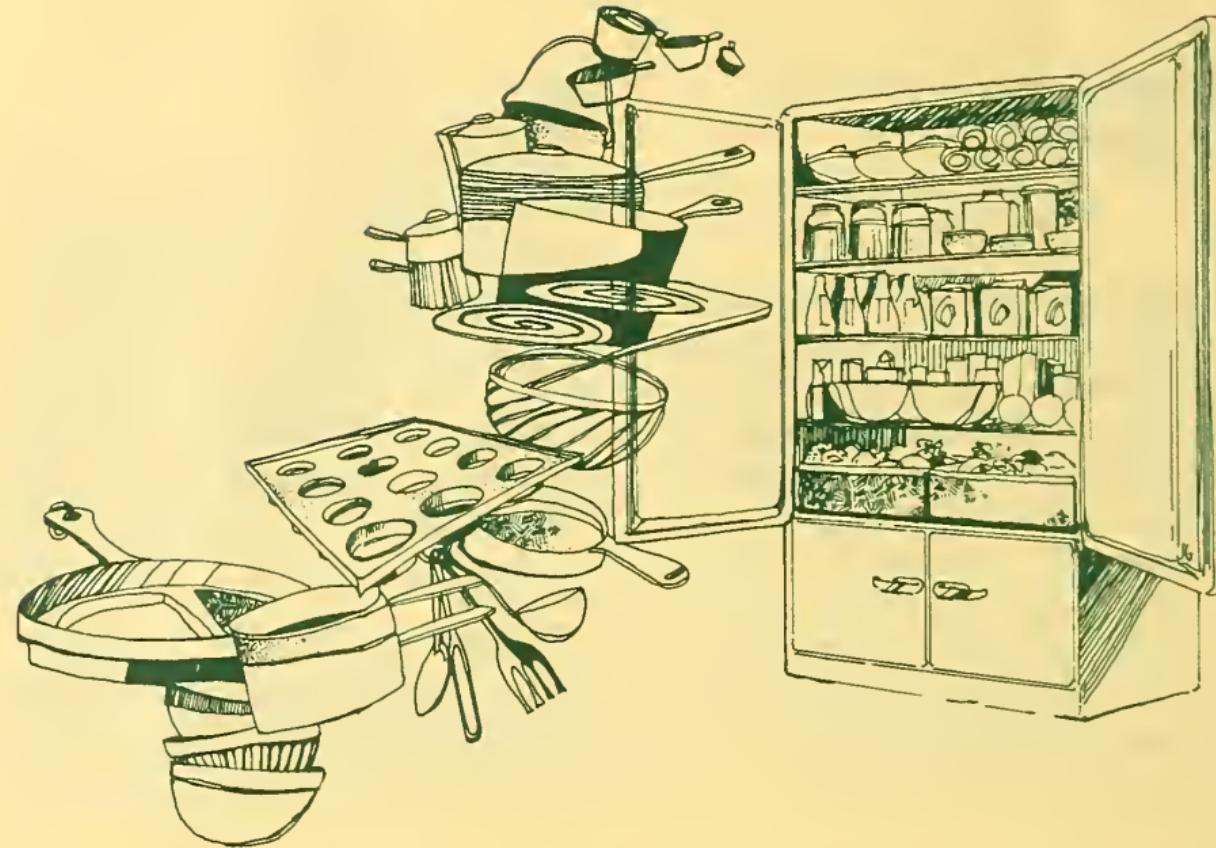
take part must agree to:

- Operate the breakfast program on a nonprofit basis for all children regardless of race, color, or national origin;
- Serve breakfasts that meet nutritional standards set by the Secretary of Agriculture;
- Provide breakfasts free or at a reduced price to children who local school authorities find are unable to pay the full price. Children getting free or reduced-price breakfasts must not be identified, nor discriminated against, in any way.

The Breakfast Pattern

The breakfast pattern is designed to give a child a good start toward meeting his daily nutritional needs. To be eligible for Federal cash reimbursement, breakfasts must contain as a minimum:

1. One-half pint of fluid whole milk served as a beverage, or on cereal or used in part for each purpose.
2. A one-half cup serving of fruit, or full-strength fruit or vegetable juice.
3. One slice of whole-grain or enriched bread; or an equivalent serving of cornbread, biscuits, rolls, muffins,



etc., made of whole-grain or enriched meal or flour; or three-fourths cup serving of whole-grain cereal or enriched or fortified cereal; or an equivalent quantity of any combination of these foods.

For added nutritional value, breakfasts shall also include as often as practical protein-rich foods such as one egg; or a one-ounce serving (edible portion) of meat, poultry, or fish; or one ounce of cheese; or two tablespoons of peanut butter; or an equivalent quantity of any combination of these foods.

NONFOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The National School Lunch Program is now available to a majority of the Nation's school children. However, in many schools and many areas where the need is greatest, local resources cannot provide the equipment needed for food service. The Child Nutrition Act authorizes Federal aid to help schools in poverty areas purchase equipment needed to establish, maintain, and expand school food services.

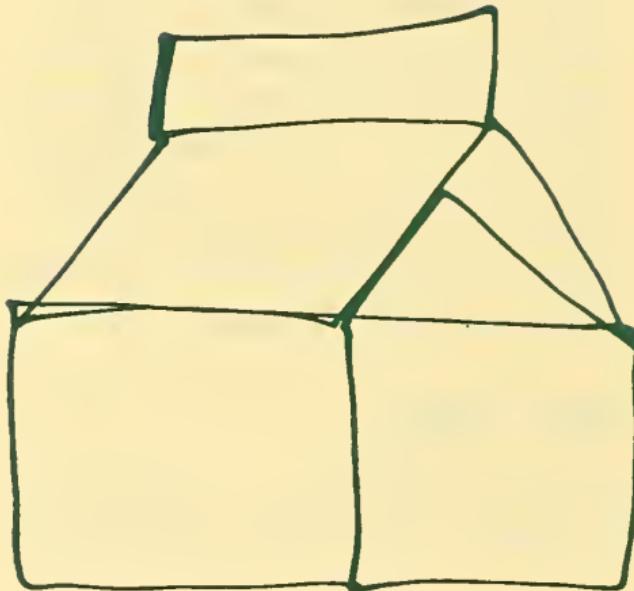
Federal Cash Assistance

Federal funds for nonfood pur-

chases are apportioned among the States to pay needy schools for up to three-fourths of the total price of the equipment including installation charges. The remaining one-fourth must come from sources within the State. The amount of money each State receives is determined by two factors: (1) the school lunch participation in the State, and (2) the State's per capita income.

Who Is Eligible

Nonfood assistance is limited, but available, to schools drawing attendance from needy areas. It helps



schools with no equipment or inadequate equipment to start or expand food service programs. Schools approved for nonfood assistance must agree to take part in the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program. If it has only the breakfast program, the school must agree to work toward starting a lunch program. Schools qualifying for nonfood assistance may also be eligible for such special school lunch assistance as above-average cash reimbursement and additional donated foods, under Section 11 of the National School Lunch Act.

TO APPLY FOR THE PROGRAMS:

For more information about the Special Milk, School Breakfast, and Nonfood Assistance Programs, public schools and nonprofit private schools and institutions in States not listed below should apply directly to their State Educational Agency in their capital city.¹ Nonprofit private schools and institutions in the following States should apply to the appropriate USDA District Office as listed:

¹ Maryland State Agency is in Baltimore.

**PRIVATE
SCHOOLS**
**CHILD-CARE
INSTITUTIONS**
(Special Milk
Program only)

NORTHEAST:

Delaware	Delaware	
Maine	Maine	U. S. Department of Agriculture
Maryland	New Hampshire	C&MS, Consumer Food Programs
New Jersey	New Jersey	346 Broadway, Room 604
Pennsylvania	Vermont	New York, New York 10013
West Virginia	West Virginia	

SOUTHEAST:

Alabama	Alabama	
Florida	Florida	U. S. Department of Agriculture
South Carolina	Georgia	C&MS, Consumer Food Programs
Tennessee	South Carolina	1795 Peachtree Road, N. E.
Virginia	Tennessee	Room 302
	Virginia	Atlanta, Georgia 30309

MIDWEST:

Iowa	Iowa	
Michigan	Michigan	U. S. Department of Agriculture
Minnesota	Missouri	C&MS, Consumer Food Programs
Nebraska	Nebraska	536 South Clark Street
North Dakota	North Dakota	Chicago, Illinois 60605
Ohio	Ohio	
Wisconsin	Wisconsin	

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Program only)

SOUTHEAST:

Arkansas	Arkansas	U. S. Department of Agriculture
Colorado	Texas	C&MS, Consumer Food Programs
Texas		500 South Ervay Street
		Room 3-127
		Dallas, Texas 75201

WESTERN:

Arizona	Arizona	U. S. Department of Agriculture
Guam	Hawaii	C&MS, Consumer Food Programs
Hawaii	Idaho	Appraiser's Building, Room 734
Idaho	Montana	630 Sansome Street
Montana	Nevada	San Francisco, California 94111
Nevada	Oregon	
Utah	Utah	
Washington	Washington	



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